

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

The examiner identified seventeen species of invention as follows:

<u>Species Number</u>	<u>Corresponding Figure Numbers</u>	<u>Corresponding Claims Numbers</u>
Species 1	1a-b – 2a-b	1, 2, and 6
Species 2	2c	1-4, and 6
Species 3	3a-b	1, 2, and 6
Species 4	4a-b	1, 2, and 6
Species 5	5	1 and 7
Species 6	6	1 and 7
Species 7	7a-h – 8a-c	1, 5, 6 and 8-17
Species 8	9a-c – 10a-c	1, 5, 6, and 8-22
Species 9	11a-d – 12	1, 5, 6, and 8-11
Species 10	13a-d	12-13 and 23-24
Species 11	14a-b	1, 5, 6, 8-13 and 25-26
Species 12	15a-b – 18	1, 5, 6, 8-13 and 27-30
Species 13	19a-e – 20	1, 5, 6, 8-13, 27-29, and 31-34
Species 14	21a-c	1, 5, 6, 8-13, 27-29, and 35-36
Species 15	22a-b	1, 5, 6, 8-13, 27-29, and 37-38
Species 16	23a-c – 24a-b	1, 5, 6, 8-16, 22 and 39-40
Species 17	25a-b – 28	1, 5, 6, 12-13, 27-29, and 41-42

Applicants provisionally elect the claims of species 13, namely claims 1, 5, 6, 8-13, 27-29 and 31-34 which correspond to Figs. 19a-e and Fig. 20.

Applicants also traverse the Election of Species Requirement because in numerous instances the independent claims 1, 12 and 27 and other dependent claims are generic to several species. For example claim 1

is generic to all species, claim 12 is generic to species 7, 8, 10-17 and claim 27 is generic to species 11-15 and 17.

Furthermore claims 1, 5-6, 8-13 and 27-29 (but not claims 31-34) of the elected species 13 are also generic to species 12-15. Thus all of the independent claims 1, 12 and 27 in this application and the claims 1, 5-6, 8-13 and 27-29 of the elected species 13 are common to species 12-15.

It will also be noted that the claims 1, 5, 6, 8-13 (but not claims 25-26) of the species 11, and the claims 1, 5, 6, 12-13 and 27-29 (but not 41-42) of the the species 17 are present in the elected species 13.

Accordingly it is respectfully submitted that a search of the species 11-15 and 17 can be made without much more additional search effort than the search that will be made for the elected species 13.

Applicants further submit that the following guidelines of MPEP §803 are applicable,

If the search and examination of all the claims in an application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine them on the merits even though they include claims to independent or distinct inventions.

Reconsideration of the Election of Species of Requirement is respectfully requested and simultaneous examination of the species 11-15 and 17 is solicited.

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Respectfully submitted

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